

Coast to Capital Employment Snapshot - April 2016

Main Points:

- Coast to Capital regional Employment Rate remained 76.8% - the second highest rate since June 2008
- 941,100 residents in the Coast to Capital region are now in employment – a 3,200 increase since last quarter
- Coast to Capital regional Unemployment Rate fell by 0.4%, to 3.6% - the lowest rate since March 2008
- The number of unemployed residents in the Coast to Capital region is 35,600 – a fall of 3,300 since last quarter and also the lowest number since March 2008

EMPLOYMENT

Since the previous quarter the employment rate has remained the same in the Coast to Capital region, staying at 76.8%, however the number of people in employment has increased by 3,200 and there are now 941,100 people in employment. The employment rate is at its second highest point since June 2008, when the employment rate was 76.9%. The South East region has had a rise of 0.1% to 76.9% since the last quarter, taking the rate slightly above the Coast to Capital region.

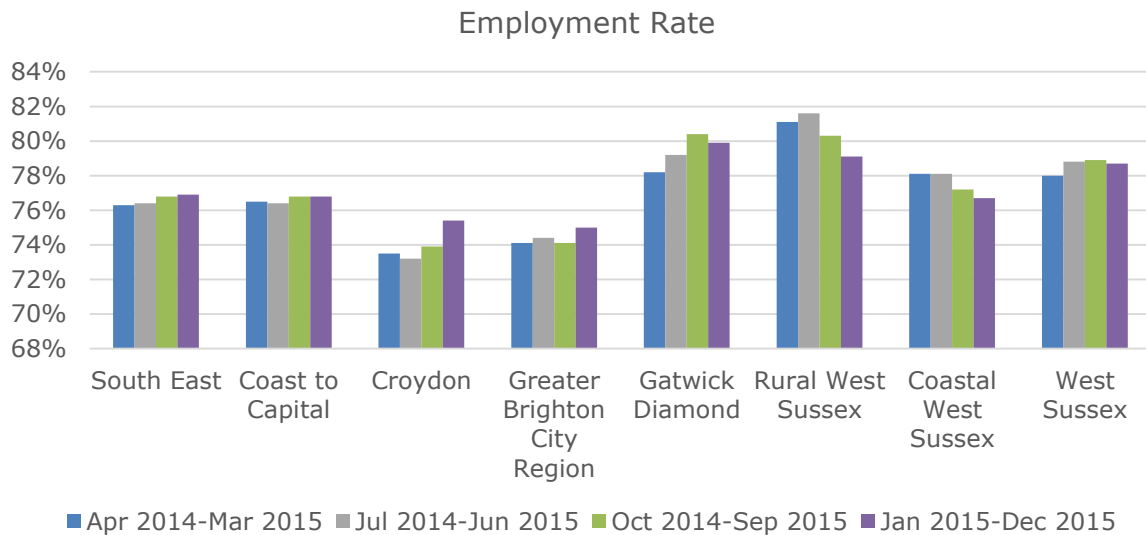


Figure 1 – Employment Rate in the Coast to Capital region - Source: Annual population survey April 2016

Across the Area Partnerships¹ employment has risen over the last quarter in Croydon and the Greater Brighton City region, increasing by 1.5% and 0.9% respectively, exposing local variances in employment performance. The remaining

¹ More information about the make-up of the Area Partnerships is at the end of the document

areas have had falls in their employment rates, in particular Rural West Sussex has had a fall of 1.2%. Both Rural and Coastal West Sussex have experienced two quarters of falling employment rates and the Rural West Sussex area has experienced a 2% drop in its employment rate over the last four quarters. Both areas have been affected by significant falls in employment rates in two specific sub-areas.

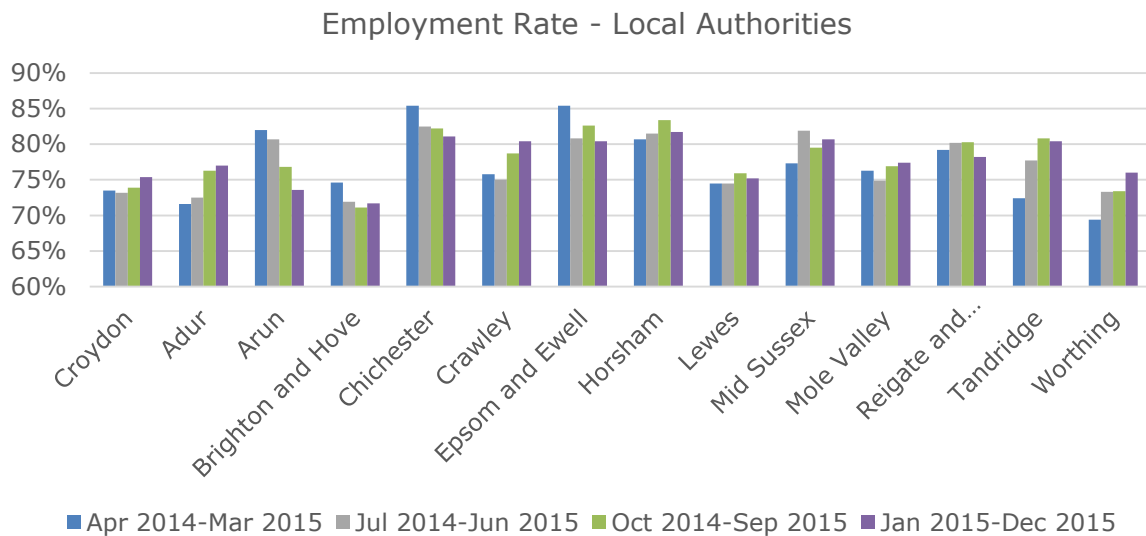


Figure 2 – Employment Rates in Local Authorities – Source: Annual population survey April 2016

Figure 2 shows the employment rate at the Local Authority level and highlights the local variations. In Arun and Chichester there have been three quarters of falling employment rates, in Arun the rates has fallen by 8.4%, 3.2% in the last quarter, and in Chichester it has fallen by 4.3% over the last three quarters. Other areas with notable falls in employment rates over the last quarter are Epsom and Ewell (2.2%), Reigate and Banstead (2.1%), and Horsham (1.7%). There have been strong increases in the employment rates in Worthing (2.6%), Crawley (1.7%), and Croydon (1.5%) over the last quarter.

One off rises or falls in the employment rate should be treated with caution as the margin for error increases at lower geographic levels, such as Local Authority areas. Focusing more on the trends of the last four quarters highlights good performance in Croydon, Adur, Mid Sussex, Tandridge, and Crawley. As previously noted downward trends are found in Arun and Chichester.

UNEMPLOYMENT

The Coast to Capital unemployment rate is now 3.6%, down 0.4% since last quarter and the unemployment rate is now the lowest rate since March 2008 and the lowest rate over the last 11 years that data is available for. The rate has been steadily falling over the last four quarters. The number of people in unemployment is now 35,600, down by 3,300 since last quarter. The South East unemployment rate is 4.3%, down by 0.1% on the last quarter. The Coast to Capital region is performing much better than the United Kingdom where the unemployment rate is 5.4%.

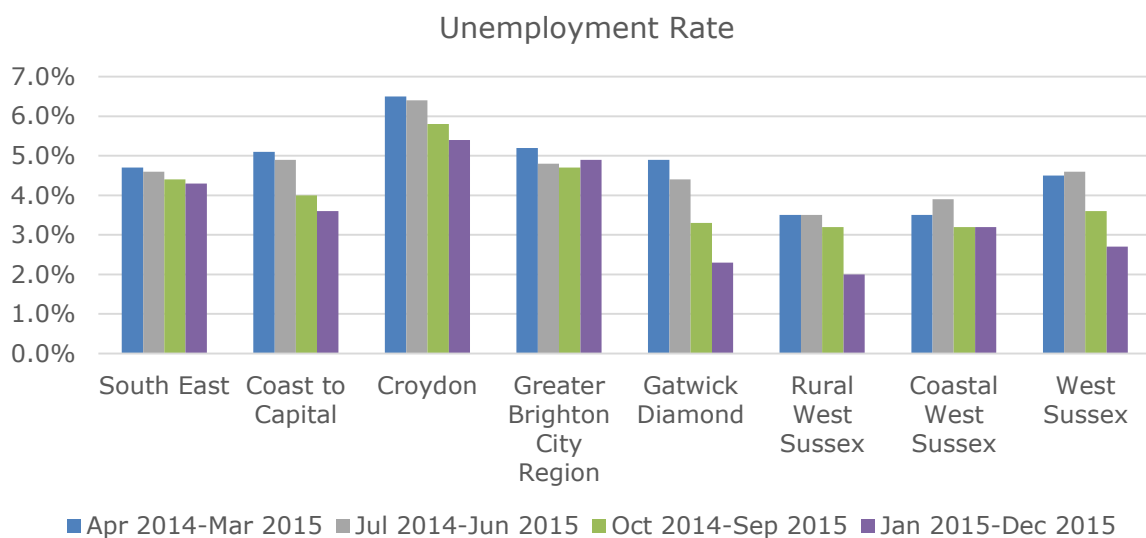


Figure 3 – Unemployment Rate in the Coast to Capital region – Source: Annual population survey April 2016

In the Area Partnerships there have generally been decreases across the four quarters, in particular in the Gatwick Diamond area unemployment has fallen by half, down to 2.3%, and in Rural West Sussex the unemployment rate has fallen to 2%. In the Croydon area the unemployment rate has fallen 1.1% over the last four quarters, down to 5.4%, whilst the Greater Brighton City region has remained steady at just below 5%, currently at 4.9%, and Coastal West Sussex has remained the same quarter on quarter at 3.2%.

At Local Authority level most areas have had consistent downward trends in the unemployment rate although there are some variations. Croydon and Adur have had the greatest reductions in unemployment rates, down by 1.1% each over the last four quarters, followed by Chichester, Crawley, and Tandridge, each down by 0.7% over the same period. In Brighton and Hove the unemployment rate has been 5.8% over all four quarters, similarly Arun has had an unemployment rate of 3.8% over the last three quarters, and Adur has remained at 4.1% over the

last two quarters. In both Epsom and Ewell and Mole Valley there have been slight upward trends in unemployment rates, although these have only been small increases.

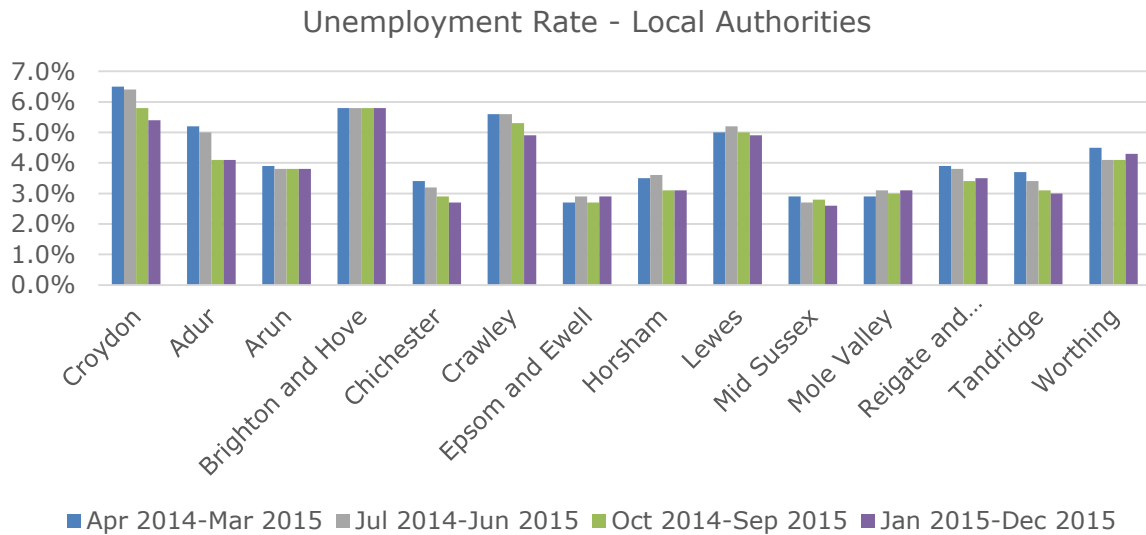


Figure 4 – Unemployment Rate in Local Authorities – Source: Annual population survey model based unemployment April 2016

Jan 2015-Dec 2015	Employment Rate	Unemployment Rate
United Kingdom	73.5%	5.4%
South East	76.9%	4.3%
Coast to Capital	76.8%	3.6%
Croydon	75.4%	5.4%
Greater Brighton City Region	75.0%	4.9%
Gatwick Diamond	79.9%	2.3%
Rural West Sussex	79.1%	2.0%
Coastal West Sussex	76.7%	3.2%
West Sussex	78.7%	2.7%
Croydon	75.4%	5.4%
Adur	77.0%	4.1%
Arun	73.6%	3.8%
Brighton and Hove	71.7%	5.8%
Chichester	81.1%	2.7%
Crawley	80.4%	4.9%
Epsom and Ewell	80.4%	2.9%
Horsham	81.7%	3.1%
Lewes	75.2%	4.9%
Mid Sussex	80.7%	2.6%
Mole Valley	77.4%	3.1%
Reigate and Banstead	78.2%	3.5%
Tandridge	80.4%	3.0%
Worthing	76.0%	4.3%

Table 1 – Employment and Unemployment Rates in the Coast to Capital Region Jan to Dec 2015:
Source: Annual population survey and model based unemployment April 2016

Area Partnerships:

For data purposes these partnerships have been built up using the Local Authority areas that they cover, a list is below. It should be noted that some of these partnerships overlap and some Local Authority areas are counted in both, for this reason the Area Partnership data will not add up to the Coast to Capital regional data. The Gatwick Diamond, Rural West Sussex, and Coastal West Sussex all have areas that overlap.

It should also be noted that in Rural West Sussex the Arun and Mid Sussex Local Authorities are not classified as rural and that data for Rural West Sussex includes the urban centres within those Local Authorities. Currently there are no regularly updated datasets for locations below Local Authority level, which makes it impossible to provide up to date data for strictly rural areas. This necessitates the use of the broader Local Authority areas to make up Rural West Sussex.

Similarly Chichester is largely rural but is also part of the Coastal West Sussex Partnership and as such those rural areas are included in data for Coastal West Sussex.

Brighton & Hove and Lewes has now been expanded to reflect the Greater Brighton City Region, this involves further overlaps of Local Authority Areas. Mid Sussex is now in Rural West Sussex, the Gatwick Diamond, and the Greater Brighton City Region, and Adur and Worthing are now both in the Coastal West Sussex partnership and the Greater Brighton City Region.

Croydon	The Greater Brighton City Region	The Gatwick Diamond	Rural West Sussex	Coastal West Sussex
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Croydon 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Brighton and Hove •Lewes •Adur •Mid Sussex •Worthing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Crawley •Epsom and Ewell •Horsham •Mid Sussex •Mole Valley •Tanbridge •Reigate and Banstead 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Arun •Chichester •Horsham •Mid Sussex 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Adur •Arun •Chichester •Worthing